

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claim 5 is withdrawn. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 121

The Office Action requires a restriction to one of the following sets of claims:

Species I: Claims 1-5, 8-13, 16-18, and 20;

Species II: Claims 1-4 and 6-20.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect invention II, claims 1-4 and 6-20. However, Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement.

Claim 5 is hereby withdrawn. It is respectfully urged that the subject application be reconsidered.

The Office Action states that the species are independent or distinct because they are mutually exclusive, but provides no specific explanation or example as to why these species are believed to be mutually exclusive.

Claim 5 recites: “in response to a determination that said first buffer is not larger than said threshold, replacing said first and said second buffers said chain with an aggregated buffer which is a combination of said first and said second buffers.”

Claim 6 recites: “in response to a determination that said first buffer is not larger than said threshold, combining said first buffer with a second buffer in said chain to create a new buffer that is a combination of said first buffer and said second buffer, and creating a new chain of buffers that includes said new buffer instead of either said first or said second buffer.”

Applicants believe the restriction requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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